

Listing of the Claims:

The following is a complete listing of all the claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

1. (Currently amended) A method for operating an exhaust gas purification system for exhaust gas which contains organosilicon compounds, comprising the steps of:

treating said exhaust gas in a regenerator with a heat storage material at least a portion of which is in the form of bulk material and which forms a bed, said treating step results in the formation of adhesions containing silica on said heat storage material formed by oxidation of organosilicon compounds;

removing at least a portion of said heat storage material of said bed from said regenerator after adhesions are formed on said heat storage material from oxidation of said organosilicon compounds;

purifying the heat storage material removed from said regenerator by removing adhesions from said heat storage material; and

re-introducing the heat storage material purified in said purifying step into the regenerator to refill the bed for retaining oxidation products of the organosilicon compounds in the form of adhesions on the heat storage material.

2. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the steps of removing, purifying and re-introducing of the heat storage material is effected automatically or semiautomatically.

3. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the treating step is performed in the regenerator alternately with upward and downward flow.

4. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 3, further comprising the step of flushing the regenerator with intermediate storage of the exhaust gas.

5. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one

regenerator includes two or more regenerators each with beds which are connected to a combustion space, and through which flow takes place alternately between the at least two or more regenerators, and wherein each of said two or more regenerators are equipped with an apparatus for removal and re-introduction of the heat storage material after purification using a separation apparatus.

6. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein said at least one regenerator includes two or more regenerators, and wherein performing said steps of removing, purifying, and re-introducing ~~removal, purification and re-introduction of~~ the heat storage material is effected at successive times in individual regenerators of said two or more regenerators.

7. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of detecting a pressure drop across said bed of said heat storage material and performing said steps of removing, purifying, and re-introducing said heat storage material after a maximum permissible pressure drop is exceeded.

8. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the steps of removing, purifying, and re-introducing said heat storage material are performed after ~~is removed, purified, and re-introduced~~ after certain time intervals.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said step of removing removes only partly said heat storage material.

11. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said treating step includes preheating not completely in a regenerative manner.

12-14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the heat storage material which forms the bed consists of solid or hollow spheres.

16. (Previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the at least one regenerator includes two or more regenerators, each of which have a discharge connected to a separation apparatus.

17. (Canceled)